Message Text

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R 021606Z AUG 77 FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6256 TREASURY DEPT WASHDC

UNCLAS ROME 12551

PASS FRB

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIN IT

SUBJ: JULY TREASURY FINANCING; INTEREST RATE DEVELOPMENTS

- 1 . THE REGULAR MONTHLY TREASURY BILL AUCTION IN JULY WENT ONLY MILDLY WELL. BANKS AND OTHER PRIVATE INVESTORS PURCHASED ENTIRE OFFERING OF 3-MONTH BILLS ON DECLINING YIELDS. THEY SHOWED SUBSTANTIALLY LES S INTEREST, HOWEVER, IN 6 AND 12-MONTH BILLS. AS SHOWN IN TABLE 1, BANKS REDUCED THEIR NET BILL HOLDINGS IN JULY BY 264 BILLION LIRE.
- 2. THE BANK OF ITALY (BOI) STANCE AT THE JULY AUCTION FAVORED THE CONTINUED DECLINE IN INTEREST RATES AND A SHIFT TOWARD LONGER MATURITIES. THE SHARE OF 3-MONTH BILLS IN THE TOTALOFFERING WAS SMALLER THAN USUAL, EVEN THOUGH THE DEMAND FOR BILLS IS STRONGEST IN THE SHORTEST MATURITIES. THE BOI WAS UNWILLING TO SEE THE LONGER-TERM INTEREST RATES RISE: IT PURCHASED 925 BILLION OF THE 2250 BILLION LIRE OF 6-MONTH BILLS OFFERED AND 464 BILLION OF THE 750 BILLION LIRE OF 12-MONTH BILLS OFFERED. AS SHOWN IN TABLE 2 YIELDS ON 3 AND 12-MONTH BILLS WERE LOWER AND ON 6-MONTH BILLS UNCHANGED COMPARED TO JUNE. THE BOI ALSO PURCHASED 1500 BILLION OF BILLS DIRECTLY UNCLASSIFIED

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FROM THE TREASURY IN JULY.

3. /TABLE 1/

JULY TREASURY FINANCING (TREASURY BILLS BILLIONS OF LIRE)

MATURING PURCHASED NET

 BANKS/PUBLIC
 3375
 3111
 -264

 BOI (OF WHICH:
 1275
 2889
 1614

 DIRCT PLACEMENT)
 (1500)

TOTAL 4650 6000 1350

4. /TABLE 2/

3 MONTH 15.32 14.60
6 MONTH 15.87 15.74

1) COMPOUND ANNUAL YIELD .HOLMES

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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Subject: JULY TREASURY FINANCING; INTEREST RATE DEVELOPMENTS 1. THE REGULAR MONTHLY TREASURY BILL AUCTION IN JULY

WENT ONLY MILDLY WELL. BANKS AND OTHER PRI VATE INVESTO TAGS: EFIN, IT

To: STATE

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